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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

World Summaries
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

APRIL 30, 1959

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service
Washington 25, D.C.

WHALE AND SPERM OIL PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1959

World whale oil production in 1959 is forecast at 425,000 short tons, down slightly from 1958. The 1958-59 Antarctic pelagic season was less successful than the previous season. Sperm oil production in 1959 is expected to be about 10 percent below 1958, also because of the smaller Antarctic output.

Antarctic whaling (including production of the 3 South Georgia shore stations) again accounted for over 85 percent of the expected outturn of whale oil in 1958. The 1958-59 season began January 7 and ended March 16, a total of 69 days and the same as the 2 previous seasons. The catch quota was for 15,000 blue whale units, 500 above the previous year, but only 146 units more than the actual 1957-58 catch.

The small decline in the output of whale oil from the Antarctic pelagic catch resulted largely from the substantial decline in the production of the United Kingdom, partially offset by increased production by Japan and the Netherlands. Production by floating factories (excluding the Soviet Union) totaled 297,000 tons, 10,000 tons below a year earlier, and the output of the 3 land stations (Norwegian, British, and Argentine) totaled about 30,000 tons, only slightly above the 29,000 tons produced by the British and Argentine stations in 1957-58. The Norwegian station was inactive in the 1957-58 season.

Antarctic sperm oil production this season was only about 80 percent of the exceptionally large outturn of 1957-58. Most of the floating factories participating in Antarctic whaling arrive there several weeks before the regular season opens and practically all Antarctic sperm oil is produced in this interval. Sperm oil production from this area usually accounts for 40 to 50 percent of the world output and most of the year-to-year variation in total world production. Relatively low prices for sperm oil during 1958 probably accounted for much of the reduced sperm whaling, notably by Japan and Norway, in the 1958-59 season.

Changes in production of whale and sperm oils outside the Antarctic are relatively small. Since present whaling fleets operating outside the Antarctic are approximately the same as in 1958, production should remain near the 1958 level.

The future of Antarctic whaling is uncertain. The 20 floating factories now participating reportedly cannot operate economically under present catch limits, which are set at a level deemed necessary to maintain whale stocks. The problem is further aggravated by the Soviet Union's plans to launch 3 new factory ships in the near future.

WHALE AND SPERM OIL: Estimated world production by major producing country, annual 1957-59

Country	Whale oil 1957 1/	Whale oil 1958 2/	Whale oil 1959 3/	Sperm oil 1957 1/	Sperm oil 1958 2/	Sperm oil 1959 3/
	1,000 short tons					
Europe:						
Netherlands	16	19	21	1	2	3
Norway	170	137	140	19	24	18
Portugal	4/	4/	4/	4	5	5
United Kingdom	66	68	52	5	8	8
Total	252	224	213	29	39	34
Soviet Union	28	40	40	17	17	17
South America:						
Argentina	9	16	10	4/	1	1
Chile	1	3	2	5	6	6
Peru	---	---	---	10	10	10
Total	10	19	12	15	17	17
Others:						
Australia	19	21	20	1	---	---
Japan	88	112	120	35	41	36
Union of South Africa	23	7	8	6	4	4
Other countries 5/	10	12	12	7	7	7
Total	140	152	160	49	52	47
Total world	430	435	425	110	125	115

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Forecast; production of some countries ends in September. 4/ Less than 500 tons. 5/ Includes minor producing countries in Europe and South America.

Compiled from official and other sources.

In November of 1958 representatives of the 5 nations operating factory ships--Norway, Japan, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and the Soviet Union--met in the United Kingdom to discuss whaling conditions and to try to solve the problem of unecomonic operation of the fleets. The representatives agreed upon the following recommendations to the governments concerned:

1. The annual catch quota shall be allotted among participating countries with the Soviet Union to receive 20 percent of the quota and the remaining 80 percent to the other 4 countries.

2. The Soviet Union may add 3 factory ships to its existing fleets, and the other 4 nations will not increase their present fleets.

3. The recommendations shall cover a period of 7 seasons beginning with 1959-60.

Failure to agree on allotting the remaining 80 percent between Norway, Japan, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands has resulted in a conditional withdrawal from the International Whaling Convention of all but the United Kingdom. The withdrawals become permanent after June 30, 1959, unless agreement is reached as to how the quota shall be divided. Several informal meetings between 2 or more of the involved countries have produced numerous proposals and counter proposals, but thus far no agreement has been reached.

WHALE AND SPERM OIL: Antarctic pelagic production by expedition 1/ 1957-58 and 1958-59

Country and expedition	Whale oil		Sperm oil		Total oil	
	1957-58 2/	1958-59 3/	1957-58 2/	1958-59 3/	1957-58 2/	1958-59 3/
	Short tons					
Norway:						
Kosmos III	16,158	15,393	3,169	1,405	19,327	16,798
Kosmos IV	16,844	12,879	2,456	1,549	19,300	14,428
Norhval	13,233	13,233	4,256	3,378	17,489	16,611
Pelagos	12,623	12,039	2,164	160	14,787	12,199
Sir James Clark Ross	14,921	15,305	1,353	1,917	16,274	17,222
Suderoy	5,000	6,159	1,355	1,030	6,355	7,189
Thorshammer	13,812	12,286	1,359	2,091	15,171	14,377
Thorslavet	21,371	19,598	3,733	2,244	25,104	21,842
Thorshovdi	22,491	24,964	2,986	1,876	25,477	26,840
Total	136,453	131,856	22,831	15,650	159,284	147,506
Japan:						
Kinjyo Maru	13,066	12,401	3,052	933	16,118	13,334
Koykuyo Maru II	16,085	17,864	3,248	2,333	19,333	20,197
Nisshin Maru	17,713	20,883	4,117	3,304	21,830	24,187
Nisshin Maru II	16,886	19,222	2,555	4,330	19,441	23,552
Tonan Maru	15,898	15,231	3,013	3,733	18,911	18,964
Tonan Maru II	17,803	17,111	4,210	3,061	22,013	20,172
Total	97,451	102,712	20,195	17,694	117,646	120,406
United Kingdom:						
Balaena	24,740	16,285	3,201	1,157	27,941	17,442
Southern Harvester	18,277	12,078	2,441	2,201	20,718	14,279
Southern Venturer	10,840	13,303	1,138	3,709	11,978	17,012
Total	53,857	41,666	6,780	7,067	60,637	48,733
Netherlands:						
William Barendsz	19,293	21,036	2,372	2,573	21,665	23,609
Soviet Union:						
Slava	37,274	4/	4,644	4/	41,918	4/
Total Antarctic	344,328	5/ 297,270	56,822	5/ 42,984	401,150	5/ 340,254

1/ Does not include production from South Georgia shore stations. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Not available. 5/ Excluding the Soviet Union.

Compiled from official sources.

LITTLE CHANGE IN WORLD HARD FIBER PRODUCTION IN 1958

World production of sisal, abaca, and henequen - the 3 principal hard fibers - was 1,749.8 million pounds in 1958, according to preliminary estimates. This was only 54.6 million pounds, or 3 percent, less than the revised estimate of 1,804.4 million pounds in 1957. Production in 1958 was the highest in any year except 1957.

Hard fibers are cultivated mostly in tropical and semi-tropical regions, and grown mainly for export as raw fibers. They are sold principally in Europe, the United States, and Japan, and are used to make cordage, bags, and carpets.

Sisal has increased considerably both in quantity and in relative importance in the total output of hard fibers. In quantity, it has increased from a 1935-39 annual average of 540 million pounds to a peak of about 1,229 million pounds in recent years. In percentage of total hard fibers it has risen from 46 percent in 1935-39 to 53 percent in early postwar years, and to 70 percent in 1958.

Abaca production dropped considerably during World War II, and a subsequent upward trend brought it back only to about three-fourths of its prewar level by 1956. Abaca made up 33 percent of the total hard fibers in 1935-39, fell to 20 percent for the period 1946-50, then dropped to 12 percent in 1958. Prospects are not good for future increases.

Henequen production is increasing slowly, but the rapid post-war growth in sisal production has caused the relative position of henequen among hard fibers to decrease. It made up 21 percent of the total in 1935-39, 27 percent in 1946-50, but only 18 percent in 1958.

Sisal: Sisal production gained very little in 1958. About 1,229.2 million pounds were produced, compared with 1,228.5 million in 1957, according to preliminary estimates. Increases in East Africa and Angola were almost entirely offset by sizable decreases in Brazil, Indonesia, and Haiti.

The principal producing areas are in Tanganyika and Brazil, with Angola, Kenya, Mozambique, Haiti, and Indonesia next in importance. These 7 countries account for 93 percent of the world's sisal. Africa is the most important continent, producing 756.0 million pounds in 1958. The Western Hemisphere produced 404.3 million pounds. Asian production, principally in Indonesia, is decreasing.

The low prices for sisal in the world market have been a big factor in the slowing down of the rising trend in production. While prices rose a little in the latter part of 1958, they were still near a postwar low. Growers are facing a discouraging cost-price situation, and replantings are small. British East African sisal No. 1, landed New York, averaged 9.5 cents a pound in 1958 compared with 9.4 cents in 1957 and 10.2 cents in 1956. The peak was 29.7 cents in 1951.

HARD FIBERS: World production by calendar years, averages 1935-39 and 1946-50, and years 1954 through 1958

Commodity and area	Averages		Calendar years				
	1935-39*	1946-50	1954	1955	1956	1957 1/	1958 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
SISAL							
Western Hemisphere:							
Brazil	2/ 0.2	55.7	138.9	198.4	242.5	328.5	304.2
Haiti	13.9	48.0	52.9	73.0	74.4	2/ 70.0	2/ 60.0
Venezuela	.2	5.9	15.7	20.0	13.2	13.2	2/ 13.2
Other 2/	2.0	1.8	1.7	6.0	15.6	20.1	26.9
Total	16.3	111.4	209.2	297.4	345.7	431.8	404.3
Africa:							
Angola	12.5	36.8	69.2	91.2	82.2	102.3	105.8
French Equatorial Africa	-	1.1	5.5	4.4	5.5	3.4	2/ 5.0
Kenya and Uganda	72.6	75.8	78.9	86.5	90.1	92.6	104.2
Madagascar 3/	5.7	6.7	37.8	25.8	25.5	27.0	2/ 25.1
Mozambique	32.9	38.2	52.1	59.1	63.1	71.4	71.5
Tanganyika	205.4	258.9	399.3	395.4	416.1	414.1	440.3
Other 2/	12.2	9.8	5.0	6.2	6.9	4.4	4.1
Total	341.3	427.3	647.8	668.6	689.4	715.2	756.0
Asia and Oceania:							
British North Borneo	-	-	4.2	6.2	2.0	2/ 3.0	2/ 3.0
China, Taiwan	2/ 1.2	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.7	6.3	2/ 6.5
Indonesia	180.9	5.0	2/ 61.8	2/ 73.7	74.3	71.6	2/ 59.0
Other 2/	.4	2.5	1.4	1.3	1.0	.6	.4
Total	182.5	10.5	69.6	83.6	80.0	81.5	68.9
Total sisal	540.1	549.2	926.6	1,049.6	1,115.1	1,228.5	1,229.2
ABACA							
Western Hemisphere:							
Costa Rica	-	7.7	7.3	1.6	0	3.5	4.9
Guatemala	-	7.8	6.4	4.9	2.0	3.9	3.3
Honduras	-	5.8	2.7	6.8	5.0	5.4	1.1
Other 2/	-	7.9	3.3	4.0	.2	.2	.2
Total	-	29.2	19.7	17.3	7.2	13.0	9.5
Asia and Africa:							
British North Borneo	2/ 4.0	1.2	4.2	6.0	5.2	6.3	2/ 5.0
Indonesia	8.2	3.8	2/ 5.5	2/ 5.0	3.6	.9	1.3
Philippines 4/	373.8	170.8	220.9	236.0	274.9	262.6	195.9
Other 2/	-	.7	.6	.6	.3	.4	.3
Total	386.0	176.5	231.2	247.6	284.0	270.2	202.5
Total abaca	386.0	205.7	250.9	264.9	291.2	283.2	212.0
HENEQUEN							
Mexico	204.0	243.9	231.0	241.8	245.1	249.1	266.8
Cuba	30.5	31.1	31.7	19.3	22.9	25.4	19.8
El Salvador	6.6	6.4	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.6	5.6
Other 2/	.1	.4	.5	.5	1.4	12.6	16.4
Total henequen	241.2	281.8	268.3	266.6	274.6	292.7	308.6
Total sisal, abaca, and henequen	1,167.3	1,036.7	1,445.8	1,581.1	1,680.9	1,804.4	1,749.8

*The 1934-38 average, which is more representative of prewar levels of hard fibers production, can be obtained by reference to previous publications in this series. Hereafter, the 1935-39 average will be used to conform to usual practice in other government publications.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Foreign Agricultural Service estimates based on incomplete data.

3/ Includes Comoro Island.

4/ Data include only fiber inspected by the Philippine Fiber Inspection Service and represent generally only 90 to 95 percent of the total Philippine production. Converted at 278.88 pounds to the bale.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from official estimates of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, and estimates based on exports or other available pertinent information.

There has been some progress in finding new uses for sisal. A new paper mill in Brazil is a promising industry for consumption of the country's excess supply of sisal which has been difficult to sell in the world market.

Plantations of Tanganyika and Kenya are organized on a relatively economic basis, and output in 1958 established new records. Other African countries either fell below 1957 production or made small progress.

Indonesian production is decreasing with no immediate prospect for a change in trend. Growers are finding other crops more profitable and are not replanting enough to keep plantations at their current area.

Abaca: Abaca production decreased to 212.0 million pounds in 1958 compared with 283.2 million in 1957, or a drop of 25 percent. Most of the decrease was in the Philippines, which produces more than nine-tenths of all the abaca, but there was some decline in Central America. Severe drought, reduction in acreage, mosaic disease, and unfavorable prices all contributed to the sharply reduced Philippine output.

Considerable change has been taking place in the Philippine industry, principally because of mosaic disease. The Southern Mindanao area now produces about half as much abaca as in 1954 while other areas are producing nearly a third more. For the first time in history, in 1958 there was less abaca production in Southern Mindanao than in other Philippine areas.

The average price of Philippine abaca, Davao I, landed New York was 25.7 cents a pound in 1958, compared with 27.0 cents in 1957, a postwar low of 18.6 cents in 1954, and an alltime peak of 32.1 cents in 1951. The 1935-38 average was 7.5 cents.

Henequen: Henequen production increased in 1958 for the third successive year, and is estimated at 308.6 million pounds. Mexico produced 266.8 million pounds, its largest harvest since 1948, and an increase of 7 percent over 1957. A large share of the Mexican fiber is manufactured within the country, but nearly three-fourths of the manufactured products are exported.

Prices of henequen fiber continued to decline in 1958 and reached an annual average that was a postwar low. Mexican Grade A fiber, landed New York, averaged only 7.4 cents a pound in 1958, compared with the peak of 24.5 cents in 1951 and the 1935-39 average of 5.1 cents.

WORLD OUTPUT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, FOURTH QUARTER AND ANNUAL, 1958

Overall factory production of dairy products in the fourth quarter of 1958 was below the same quarter of 1957. Production conditions were favorable in Australia but unsatisfactory in New Zealand. Western European production conditions varied, with output rising in some countries and decreasing in others.

Creamery butter output in the fourth quarter, 1958, was slightly below comparable 1957. Production was up in Australia, New Zealand, France, West Germany, Finland and Norway; it decreased in other major producing countries.

The manufacture of factory cheese dropped 11 percent below a year earlier. Australia, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the United States increased their production. Output was smaller in France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Over-all canned milk production was down 2 percent, due to the decline in U.S. output which offset the heavier production of other countries.

Total dried milk production was 2 percent less than fourth quarter, 1957. Gains in output were reported in Australia, France, the Netherlands and Canada. Output was smaller in West Germany, Sweden and the United States.

Annual

Milk production as a whole in the principal dairy producing countries increased moderately in 1958 over a year earlier. This rise, attributed to favorable production conditions and high yields per cow in some countries, and to more cows milked in others, was reflected in an increase in the principal factory products, except canned milks. In canned milks a reduction in U. S. and Canadian output accounted for a decline.

The Commodity Summaries in this monthly supplementary issue of Foreign Crops and Markets are part of a series of reports on World Crop and Livestock Production and Trade which are released according to a schedule published at the beginning of each calendar year.

The country data are prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. Representatives abroad, results of office research, and other information. The Summaries of Production have been approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics.

FACTORY DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries, Oct.-Dec., 1958 (preliminary) with comparisons

Country and product	Average 1951-55	Total 1957	Total 1958	1957	1958				Oct.-Dec., 1958 compared with Oct.-Dec., 1957
				Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Percent
Butter:									
Canada	294,500	305,619	338,219	63,170	37,965	108,873	125,431	65,950	104
United States	1,327,009	1,412,843	1,386,095	300,139	361,510	425,610	311,360	287,615	96
Belgium	87,629	105,907	111,284	--	--	--	--	--	--
Denmark	370,549	384,923	347,004	83,114	83,334	103,396	86,420	73,854	89
Finland	102,364	158,811	164,309	31,261	32,284	47,379	48,382	36,264	116
France	1/ 479,000	2/ 623,900	2/ 661,400	2/ 218,100	2/ 110,200	2/ 176,400	2/ 144,100	2/ 230,700	106
Germany, West	629,612	685,392	792,207	161,575	179,909	230,669	205,351	176,278	109
Ireland	79,547	109,458	104,675	19,880	7,661	39,054	43,098	14,862	75
Netherlands	174,025	167,770	201,941	36,722	35,430	75,464	60,452	30,595	83
Norway	24,440	34,610	29,799	3,078	4,997	12,148	8,649	4,005	130
Sweden	209,896	193,399	190,127	37,092	38,920	58,631	57,923	34,653	91
Switzerland 3/	55,644	63,051	4/ 67,902	11,621	16,214	20,891	18,151	11,528	99
United Kingdom	29,434	76,160	66,640	15,456	18,592	31,360	13,440	3,248	21
Argentina	116,805	124,573	113,265	35,584	42,615	26,166	16,597	27,887	78
Union of So. Africa	69,026	85,165	--	26,291	26,455	16,297	15,514	--	--
Australia	367,731	397,069	402,413	145,226	105,130	56,479	82,593	158,211	109
New Zealand	422,182	468,234	488,083	198,307	140,627	48,315	98,229	200,912	101
Cheese:									
Canada 5/	79,735	99,036	90,510	17,865	7,719	30,142	35,430	17,219	96
United States	1,285,219	1,404,102	1,408,000	283,689	311,855	440,290	356,350	299,505	106
Denmark	184,437	215,830	236,333	43,430	48,501	75,177	63,493	49,162	113
France	647,500	2/ 705,500	2/ 771,600	2/ 261,700	2/ 176,400	2/ 224,900	2/ 182,400	2/ 187,900	72
Italy 6/	705,580	740,746	765,658	--	--	--	--	--	--
Netherlands	306,367	356,983	381,223	75,123	64,903	125,700	109,502	77,674	103
Norway 7/	64,777	68,270	78,967	10,948	14,665	27,190	23,379	13,733	125
Sweden	122,613	115,060	112,902	18,589	21,559	37,110	34,572	19,661	106
Switzerland 7/	124,207	139,772	4/ 136,024	25,939	24,023	37,576	41,979	23,903	92
United Kingdom 3/	148,758	255,584	213,248	54,880	54,880	79,296	51,520	27,552	50
Argentina	236,294	260,418	241,263	75,602	75,080	61,973	55,267	48,943	65
Union of So. Africa	23,806	26,068	--	8,005	7,309	4,677	5,792	--	--
Australia	98,912	85,810	83,959	30,941	15,947	10,549	21,950	35,513	115
New Zealand	228,824	217,135	197,119	92,804	65,184	21,250	32,108	78,577	85
Canned milk:									
Canada 8/	319,791	344,214	337,842	51,351	54,797	124,100	101,922	57,023	111
United States 9/	2,723,490	2,507,497	2,351,195	450,823	465,950	777,050	662,825	445,370	99
Cuba	55,536	86,978	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Denmark	77,096	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
France	140,400	2/ 130,100	2/ 152,100	2/ 48,100	2/ 27,100	2/ 40,100	2/ 38,100	2/ 46,800	97
Germany, West	352,627	629,228	664,206	125,845	136,665	210,194	186,896	130,451	104
Netherlands	491,009	619,272	630,956	131,394	131,836	170,080	176,657	152,383	116
Switzerland	10,141	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	282,531	407,904	2/ 408,940	63,392	73,248	149,856	105,056	2/ 80,780	127
Argentina	18,811	22,787	26,888	6,544	7,743	5,006	5,544	8,595	131
Australia	135,394	156,798	--	64,724	36,696	16,970	--	--	--
Dried milk 10/:									
Canada 11/	97,077	143,798	206,481	37,336	22,447	65,577	74,477	43,980	118
United States 12/	1,245,123	1,804,823	1,790,580	355,096	455,260	614,300	382,150	338,870	95
Belgium	28,697	55,467	65,803	--	--	--	--	--	--
Denmark	29,092	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
France	1/ 27,800	2/ 33,100	2/ 79,300	2/ 14,200	2/ 6,600	2/ 25,800	2/ 27,300	2/ 19,600	138
Germany, West	75,765	127,730	120,896	27,561	24,346	40,050	32,608	23,892	87
Netherlands	109,228	149,692	181,879	6,393	19,621	88,864	65,316	8,078	126
Sweden	24,070	39,147	39,769	5,539	7,493	15,056	12,039	5,181	94
Switzerland	16,402	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	83,597	154,112	2/ 127,617	32,480	31,808	56,896	22,848	2/ 16,065	49
Argentina	19,073	23,538	24,477	8,237	7,800	4,106	3,896	8,675	105
Australia	78,750	102,067	104,585	39,642	22,785	10,483	22,156	49,161	124

1/ Less than a 5-year average. 2/ Estimated. 3/ Total production. 4/ Annual production figures more complete than monthly figures used in quarterly data. 5/ Cheddar cheese only. 6/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of sheep and goats. 7/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of goats. 8/ Both bulk and case goods. 9/ Evaporated whole and condensed whole case goods only. 10/ Dried whole milk and nonfat solids production. 11/ Approximately 1.8 to 2.0 million pounds of animal feed included in production data. 12/ Includes dry milk for animal feeding.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and other information.

1958 WALNUT PRODUCTION LARGE IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES

The 1958 commercial production of walnuts in non-Communist countries, estimated at 180,200 short tons, unshelled basis, was exceptionally large. This was in sharp contrast to the short crop of 122,500 tons in 1957.

The 1958 harvest was well above average and even more above the below-average 1957 pack in each of the leading producing countries, the United States, France, and Italy. India, Turkey, and Yugoslavia also had larger packs in 1958.

Communist China is also a substantial producer of walnuts; there is no reliable information regarding its output. However, according to information from walnut-importing countries and India, the volume of Chinese walnuts appearing in foreign markets this season is much below that of recent years.

WALNUTS, UNSHELLED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1953-58

Country	Average 1951-55	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Prelim. 1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
France	28,500	26,700	26,500	33,500	20,500	12,000	33,500
India	1/	1/	12,000	8,500	10,500	13,000	14,000
Iran 2/	6,400	7,400	7,100	6,800	4,400	3/	3/
Italy	19,900	7,700	12,500	29,000	39,000	13,000	25,000
Syria	5,000	6,700	4,400	3,300	2,200	4,400	2,200
Turkey	6,400	6,900	5,500	5,800	4,100	3,600	6,500
Yugoslavia	4,300	3,400	5,300	5,600	3,500	3,800	4,800
Foreign total	81,500	69,800	73,300	92,500	84,200	55,900	92,100
United States	74,600	59,200	75,400	77,400	71,800	66,600	4/ 88,100
Grand total	156,100	129,000	148,700	169,900	156,000	122,500	180,200

1/ Not available; 1954-57 average of 11,000 tons used in totals.
2/ Iranian data on a March to March year.
3/ Not available; 1954-56 average of 6,100 tons used in totals.
4/ Walnut Control Board estimate.

The foreign production totals in this summary are not comparable with those published previously by the Foreign Agricultural Service. The tabulation in this summary is more complete. Estimates are included here for the first time of the commercial production in India, Iran, and Turkey, as well as revised estimates of commercial production in Yugoslavia. In the last summary, published November 20, 1958, only the export figures for Iran, Turkey, and Yugoslavia were shown while no Indian data of any kind were included. FAS has since developed estimates of these countries' walnut marketings.

It is emphasized that these are estimates of the portion of the crop that is marketed--internally and in export channels. This may be only a small part of the crop; as in Turkey, for instance where the bulk of the crop is not marketed commercially and where total 1957 and 1958 production was 64,000 and 59,000 short tons, respectively. Since these new estimates are based on somewhat fragmentary data, they are subject to possible future revision.

WORLD PEANUT PRODUCTION AGAIN SETS RECORD

World production of peanuts in 1958 is estimated at 15.7 million short tons, unshelled basis, 6 percent above the previous record in 1957 and over one-third larger than the 1950-54 average.

The estimated 838,000-ton increase was due primarily to expansion in India, the United States, the Sudan, Brazil and Communist China. Harvests in French West Africa and Nigeria were smaller than the record crops of 1957.

North American production was up one-fourth from 1957 mainly because of the 30-percent increase in the United States. The rise in the U.S. production reflects record yields (1,213 pounds per acre compared with the previous record in 1956 of 1,161 pounds). The acreage picked and threshed, although up 4 percent from 1957, was one-fourth less than the 10-year average. The crop provided more peanuts than required for food and farm uses, and farmers placed about 145,000 tons, or 15 percent of the total output, under support. Most of this will be acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Peanut growers expect to plant about 3 percent fewer acres in 1959 than last year if they carry out their March 1 intentions. At average yields, production would be more than adequate to meet edible and farm uses, and some peanuts again would be acquired by CCC.

Excessive and late-season rains reduced Mexico's 1958 peanut crop by 8 percent from the previous year. Acreage in 1959 is expected to equal the large plantings of 1958, and may approximate 77,000 tons if weather is favorable.

The South American peanut crop harvested last spring was over 10 percent larger than in the previous year. Brazil's production increased by more than one-half, mainly because acreage was up one-third. In Argentina acreage rose 8 percent but adverse weather late in the season reduced the outturn by 12 percent from 1957. Planted acreage for the 1959 crop in Argentina is a record 682,000 acres, 10 percent larger than planted acreage for last year's crop.

PEANUTS 1/: Acreage and production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1956-58

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Production				
	Average		1956	1957	1958 3/	Average		1956	1957	1958 3/
	1935-39	1950-54				1935-39	1950-54			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
North America:										
Mexico	33	136	150	124	148	12.2	77.8	92.8	71.6	66.1
United States	1,659	1,718	1,385	1,481	1,537	614.7	763.2	803.9	718.0	932.4
Cuba	---	4/ 24	40	32	35	5/ 8.4	5.5	12.0	10.0	12.0
Dominican Republic	---	5/ 68	113	104	124	5/ 3.0	24.0	50.1	49.7	66.1
Estimated total 6/	1,735	1,955	1,695	1,745	1,850	638.5	873.0	961.0	851.5	1,079.0
South America:										
Argentina	202	336	483	547	592	87.3	154.4	238.3	350.5	309.7
Brazil	---	339	404	419	561	4/ 14.8	160.2	199.4	211.2	326.6
Paraguay	5/ 29	31	26	---	---	5/ 19.4	11.5	10.5	----	----
Uruguay	5	19	20	22	11	1.2	5.6	7.5	8.1	6.1
Estimated total 6/	315	750	975	1,055	1,235	128.5	341.0	468.0	596.0	669.0
Europe:										
Italy	5/ 2	11	13	12	12	1.6	9.0	11.0	11.0	12.0
Spain	5/ 23	20	23	20	25	5/ 20.8	13.5	11.9	14.3	16.5
Estimated total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 6/	30	45	50	45	50	24.5	30.5	29.5	32.5	35.0
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5/ 29	21	7/	7/	7/	----	---	7/	7/	7/
Africa:										
Egypt	23	29	36	37	---	17.2	23.3	32.0	34.5	----
Sudan	43	83	477	466	385	8.1	30.0	161.1	141.8	262.5
Angola	18	---	74	74	74	6.2	5/8/ 4.7	21.5	20.7	20.7
Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi	250	710	761	694	692	66.9	197.9	206.1	203.9	198.4
Camerouns	5/ 279	320	385	383	395	36.0	90.2	112.1	112.4	119.0
French Equatorial Africa	5/9/ 91	5/ 412	593	598	603	5/9/ 17.6	101.0	198.4	190.1	196.8
French West Africa	4/ 3,185	3,070	---	---	---	4/ 785.0	906.0	1,350.0	1,560.0	1,300.0
Gambia	---	5/ 215	---	---	---	8/ 58.1	76.0	94.0	95.0	----
Ghana	---	136	137	---	---	----	48.5	52.2	44.8	----

PEANUTS (cont'd)

Madagascar	14	55	86	---	---	6.6	20.5	24.3	37.0	----
Mozambique	---	---	---	---	---	8/ 42.9	19.5	25.0	----	----
Nigeria and British Cameroons	---	---	---	---	---	5/ 600.0	843.0	850.0	1,390.0	1,140.0
Portuguese Guinea	---	---	---	---	---	8/ 28.0	9/ 36.7	8/ 38.2	8/ 45.8	----
Rhodesia and Nyasaland	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	150.0	157.5	----
Tanganyika	5/ 277	188	240	---	---	9/ 23.4	9/ 32.0	67.0	----	----
Uganda	5/ 156	340	413	411	---	4/ 78.3	183.8	180.0	----	----
Union of South Africa	56	445	---	---	---	12.0	144.1	235.6	189.4	146.4
Estimated total 6/	7,355	9,315	11,635	11,930	11,850	1,857.0	2,868.0	3,888.0	4,590.5	4,145.5
Asia:										
Israel	---	4	11	14	10	----	6.9	15.7	19.7	14.0
Turkey (Europe and Asia)	4/ 3	12	18	21	25	5/ 1.9	11.5	19.0	22.0	----
China, Mainland	5/ 3,769	---	---	---	---	5/3034.4	2,853.0	3,000.0	2,800.0	3,300.0
Burma	784	726	813	862	10/ 991	192.2	189.5	218.0	270.5	294.6
China, Taiwan	76	210	243	256	274	32.4	67.1	90.2	103.3	108.0
India	7,535	11,830	13,450	14,876	14,481	3,295.7	3,801.3	4,704.0	4,968.3	5,393.9
Indonesia	11/ 572	714	784	834	840	11/289.1	346.4	361.2	376.6	380.3
Japan	20	59	79	98	108	14.6	33.3	57.4	83.1	98.0
Philippines	5/ 19	65	72	75	77	4.9	18.4	20.1	20.5	20.6
Thailand	4/ 11	178	200	234	237	4/ 10.9	84.8	111.8	130.2	131.0
Estimated total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 6/	12,847	15,010	21,295	22,640	22,625	6,906.0	7,432.0	8,621.5	8,822.0	9,792.0
Oceania:										
Australia	5/ 14	21	32	26	28	5/ 6.1	12.8	9.9	10.0	20.5
Estimated total 6/	14	22	33	27	30	6.1	13.5	10.5	10.5	21.0
Estimated world total 6/	22,325	30,118	35,683	37,442	37,640	9,576.0	11,568.0	13,978.5	14,903.0	15,741.5

1/ Peanuts in the shell. Southern Hemisphere peanut crops, which are harvested from April to June, are combined with those of the Northern Hemisphere harvested from September through December of the same year. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ One year only. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 7/ Less than 500 acres and 500 tons. 8/ Exports. 9/ Commercial Crop. 10/ Sown area. 11/ Java and Madura only.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U. S. Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and related information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Africa's 1958 peanut production was down an estimated 10 percent from the previous year's record. Commercial production (for oil and export) in French West Africa is estimated tentatively (the season opened December 22) at 1.02 million short tons of unshelled nuts, or 13 percent less than the 1957 record. Total production may approximate 1.3 million tons compared with 1.56 million in 1957. High producer prices are expected to keep commercial peanut production in French West Africa near 1.1 million tons annually. Acreage probably will not increase much, but per-unit yields should increase due to better seed, seed treatment, the greater use of small seed drills, improved cultural methods and greater use of commercial fertilizers.

In Nigeria commercial purchases from 1958-crop peanuts are estimated tentatively (the season was expected to be active until April 15) at about 605,000 short tons, shelled basis, or one-fourth less than record purchases from the 1957 crop. Total production is estimated at 1.1 million tons, unshelled basis, compared with the record 1.4 million the previous year.

There is a good possibility that producer prices for peanuts in the Northern Region of Nigeria will be reduced considerably for the 1959-60 crop. If there is a major price reduction, the peasant farmer may react in one of several ways. He may (1) grow more peanuts to keep his total income up; (2) turn from peanuts to food crops; or (3) shift from peanuts to cotton. There is strong competition for land, and it may be difficult to expand peanut acreage and still maintain the present acreage of food crops and cotton.

Last year's peanut crops in most other important producing areas of Africa, with the exception of the Sudan and the Union of South Africa, probably did not vary greatly from a year earlier. As a result of the a appreciable expansion being made in the cultivation of marginal non-irrigated areas, peanut production in the Sudan has made major gains in recent years. The record outturn of 1958 exceeded the previous year's crop by 85 percent and was over 8 times the 1950-54 average.

In the Union of South Africa the 1958 crop harvested last spring was down almost one-fourth from a year earlier. A severe outbreak of Rosette disease in practically the entire producing area, severe drought during the critical growing period and heavy rains during the field-drying period were largely responsible. The 1959 crop now being harvested is expected to yield about 218,000 tons or 50 percent more than last year's.

The 1958 peanut crop in Asia increased an estimated 11 percent from 1957. India, the world's largest producer, harvested a record crop. Area, which had increased 11 percent in 1957, declined 3 percent in 1958. Despite this decline, however, favorable weather resulted in a 9 percent increase in production. The peanuts in India are a cash crop. Favorable prices encourage acreage expansion, and growers, particularly in Bombay State, are increasing acreage at the expense of traditional food grains and other crops.

The Chinese Communists officially claim that 1958 peanut production was almost double that of the previous year. With improved weather and additional irrigation a substantial increase was highly probable. The unofficial estimate of 3.3 million tons would indicate an expansion of almost one-fifth from a year earlier.

There also were significant increases in peanut production in Burma, Japan and Taiwan in 1958.

MEDITERRANEAN OLIVE OIL OUTPUT ESTIMATE REDUCED SLIGHTLY

Mediterranean Basin production of olive oil now is estimated at 1.05 million short tons for the season 1958-59. Reduced estimates for Greece, Portugal, Turkey and Algeria more than offset the upward revision for Italy. The revised estimate for 1958-59 is 14 percent less than the 1.2 million tons (revised) for 1957-58 but only slightly below the 4-year 1954/55-1957/58 average.

Estimates for olive oil output in Europe began to drop in the summer of 1958, as unfavorable crop conditions accentuated the anticipated "off-year" decline in production. Adverse weather continued through November and estimates dropped further. However, as the harvesting progressed after November, it became evident that losses were not as heavy as feared earlier. Hence, for the 4 largest producing countries--Italy, Spain, Greece and Portugal--the lowest estimates made about mid-January have been revised upward. Weather conditions from last December to date indicate that the "on-year" 1959-60 crop will be good, barring unforeseen damage to the crop as the season progresses.

Middle East estimates for 1958-59 reflect adverse crop conditions in an on-year. While output exceeded the off-year 1957-58 crop by 17 percent, no producing country in the area recorded an output as large as the previous on-year 1956-57.

North Africa's year 1958-59 also was an on-year. The largest increase was recorded by Tunisia with 132,000 short tons of olive oil produced, an increase of nearly 125 percent over last year's output. Increases had been expected also in Morocco, Algeria and Libya. However, locusts, birds and a 4-day hot wind (sirocco) reportedly damaged the Moroccan crop, a 7-month drought in 1958 decimated the Libyan crop, and much of the Algerian olive crop was unharvested this year.

Olive oil supplies during 1957-58, equalling almost 1.4 million short tons, probably were at a postwar high. Consumption in the producing areas increased for the third consecutive year and exceeded consumption for 1956-57 by almost 10 percent. The relatively minor net exports from the Mediterranean Basin also increased--from 39,000 tons in 1957 to an estimated 46,000 tons in 1958. Despite increased distrubution of olive oil from 1957-58 availabilities, stocks of edible olive oil at the end of the year rose to 230 to 280,000 tons.

OLIVE OIL 1/: Mediterranean Basin, estimated production, averages 1935/36-1939/40, 1950/51-1953/54, and 1954/55-1957/58; annual 1955/56-1958/59

Country	5 yr. average	4 yr. average		Annual			
	1935/36-1939/40	1950/51-1953/54	1954/55-1957/58	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58 2/	1958/59 2/
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Europe:							
France	8.0	10.3	6.1	7.0	3.5	5.0	6.0
Greece	131.5	112.3	144.3	114.9	158.3	180.4	98.0
Italy	256.0	297.5	272.5	200.0	187.3	388.6	254.0
Portugal	64.0	88.2	86.3	75.7	104.8	111.3	67.5
Spain	3/ 357.4	393.0	358.0	291.0	430.0	375.0	350.0
Yugoslavia	3/ 5.9	1.9	4.4	.7	3.8	4.9	3.7
Total	822.8	903.2	871.6	689.3	887.7	1,065.2	779.2
Middle East:							
Israel	4/ 7.0	1.4	2.5	.6	4.5	1.0	1.5
Syria	12.5	5.6	5.3	4.4	8.2	4.4	7.2
Lebanon		8.3	7.9	3.8	15.0	4.4	8.5
Turkey	44.0	47.5	61.4	38.3	84.5	37.4	63.0
Total	63.5	62.8	77.1	47.1	112.2	47.2	80.2
Africa:							
Algeria	20.0	26.4	23.2	17.9	25.6	22.5	19.0
Morocco 5/	10.3	18.0	23.0	15.4	38.5	10.0	35.0
Tunisia	49.3	55.6	59.5	25.9	99.2	55.0	132.0
Libya	2.6	6.4	7.4	4.2	8.8	14.3	2.8
Total	82.2	106.4	113.1	63.4	172.1	101.8	188.8
Total Mediterranean	968.5	1,072.4	1,061.8	799.8	1,172.0	1,214.2	1,048.2

1/ Total oil pressed in marketing season beginning October of year shown; excludes oil extracted from residue. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average of less than 5 years. 4/ Territory formerly known as Palestine. 5/ Figures refer only to territory formerly known as French Morocco.

While olive oil carryovers this past fall were at a postwar peak, they were in the large consuming areas of Europe, where countries were faced with an off-year production for 1958-59. With rising domestic requirements in these countries, the large carryovers have not proved burdensome. In North Africa and the Middle East, Tunisia holds the only large surplus from 1958-59 output. However, this Tunisian surplus has been moving into export channels at a greatly accelerated rate compared with previous years. Morocco has imported from Tunisia this season in order to fulfill contracts made in 1958 with Eastern Europe and Red China. The large carryovers in Libya proved fortuitous following crop losses this year, and exports are banned in that country. Turkey is no longer exporting olive oil, as it needs all its production to meet rising domestic requirements.

Despite the increased olive oil availabilities, 3 major producers--Spain, Italy and Turkey--continue to import oilseeds and seed oils to supplement domestic production of fats and oils and to satisfy substantial increases in internal requirements. Spain and Turkey continue to import larger quantities of soybean oil under U.S. government programs, primarily Public Law 480. Italy this year is importing soybeans, mostly through normal trade channels but also under the Public Law 665 (ICA) programs. To a lesser extent, U.S. programs are supplying oilseeds and seed oils to Israel, Morocco and Yugoslavia.

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE WOOL EXPORTS INCREASE

Shipments of raw wool from the 5 major exporting countries fell 10 percent in the 1957-58 season (includes July-June in the Dominions and October-September in Argentina and Uruguay) from the previous season.

Exports from these countries, which accounted for 85 percent of world trade in 1957, were lower from each country except Uruguay. Principal factors were reduced output in Australia and South Africa, weakened demand from the major consuming countries and disputes over the "aforos" in Argentina and Uruguay--especially in the first half of the season.

This decline has been reversed in the 1958-59 season through December. The large exportable supplies of Argentina and Uruguay have been moving out in large volume and exports during the last quarter of 1958 were over 5 times as large as a year earlier. Exports from New Zealand also increased in the last half of 1958 while shipments from Australia and South Africa declined. Total exports from the 5 countries in the 1958-59 season through December were up 15 percent from a year earlier.

Increased demand from the United States, Japan, and the United Kingdom has been an important factor in increased exports during the early months of the 1958-59 season. Total exports from the 5 countries to the United States in the 1958-59 season through December were 103.5 million pounds, actual weight, about double a year earlier. Shipments to the United States increased from all countries but the increases were particularly sharp from Argentina, Uruguay, and the Union of South Africa. Exports of raw wool to the United Kingdom increased 27 percent during the same period, and shipments to Japan--mainly from Australia--increased 32 percent. Exports to the Soviet Union increased sharply from Argentina and Uruguay but declined from the Union of South Africa.

Australia: Shipments of raw wool from Australia during the first half of the 1958-59 season were 9 percent below the same period a year earlier. Exports for the entire season may be larger, however, in line with increased production, and the improved demand for wool textiles.

Shipments during July-December 1958 increased to the United Kingdom and Japan--the leading markets--but declined sharply to France, West Germany and Italy. The decline in export volume and lower prices resulted in a sharp drop in the value of shipments from Australia. Shipments of raw wool during this period were valued at $293 million compared with $444 million in the same period a year earlier.

New Zealand: Exports of raw wool from New Zealand increased 14 percent in July-December 1958 from the same period a year earlier. Strong demand from the U. S. and U. K. carpet industries for coarse crossbreds increased shipments to those markets. Exports to Japan and the Continent also increased but exports to the Bloc declined.

Carryover stocks at the beginning of the season were also larger as a result of purchases by the New Zealand Wool Commission at the floor support level. Total purchases in the 1957-58 season--mostly in the closing months--were 46,899 bales (340 pounds). Purchases through February of the present season were 46,034 bales. Sales during this period totaled 30,072 bales leaving net stocks on March 2 of 62,861 bales. If prices continue at mid-April levels or improve, sales of the Commission's holdings probably will exceed purchases in the remainder of the season.

WOOL: Exports from principal Southern Hemisphere countries, 1957-58 and 1958-59 seasons through December[1]

(Actual weight)

Country of destination	Australia		New Zealand		Union of South Africa		Argentina		Uruguay 2/		Total 5 Countries	
	1957-58	1958-59	1957-58	1958-59	1957-58	1958-59	1957-58	1958-59	1957-58	1958-59	1957-58	1958-59
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
United States	19.2	19.4	20.8	26.1	5.3	14.4	11.1	35.5	0.2	8.1	56.6	103.5
United Kingdom	138.7	163.5	64.2	72.9	19.6	26.1	2.2	15.6	0.6	8.0	225.3	286.1
Canada	1.3	2.0	2.1	1.1	0.6	0.3	0	0.2	0	0.1	4.0	3.7
Japan	96.9	123.1	4.7	7.3	2.0	3.7	1.8	5.0	--	0.2	105.4	139.3
Continental Europe:												
France	111.6	80.9	23.5	26.7	19.8	14.7	2.0	12.2	0.3	0.8	157.2	135.3
Belgium	50.6	54.5	5.0	6.6	4.8	3.5	0.7	1.9	0.2	0.2	61.3	66.7
Germany, West	45.3	32.2	13.0	11.7	17.0	13.4	0.5	3.9	0.5	2.5	76.3	63.7
Italy	71.2	47.1	4.2	8.6	11.7	8.6	0.6	6.4	1.0	1.0	88.7	71.7
Netherlands	1.7	1.3	2.4	3.3	0.7	0.6	1.0	7.0	1.0	2.3	6.8	14.5
Other	16.4	10.0	2.0	2.4	3.9	2.5	0.2	1.6	2.3	3.1	24.8	19.6
Total	296.8	226.0	50.1	59.3	57.9	43.3	5.0	33.0	5.3	9.9	415.1	371.5
Sino-Soviet Bloc:												
U.S.S.R.	--	--	0.8	--	17.9	9.4	0	14.1	1.1	11.7	19.8	35.2
Poland	16.0	17.2	5.5	1.6	0	0.1	0	4.4	0	0.2	21.5	23.5
Others	15.4	11.2	1.0	1.7	--	1.2	0	0.6	0.7	4.6	17.1	19.3
Total	31.4	28.4	7.3	3.3	17.9	10.7	0	19.1	1.8	16.5	58.4	78.0
Others	20.8	29.7	4.3	4.3	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2	1.8	0	27.9	34.8
World total	605.1	592.1	153.5	174.3	104.1	99.1	20.3	108.6	9.7	42.8	892.7	1,016.9
Percentage of change from 1957-58		-9		+14		-5		+435		+415		+15

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[1] Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

[2] Bale weight estimated at 1,014 pounds in 1957-58 and in 1958-59 as follows: greasy 1,057 pounds and scoured 550 pounds.

Union of South Africa: Shipments of raw wool from the Union of South Africa during July-December were 5 percent lower than in the same months of the previous season, reflecting increased holdings by the South African Wool Commission. Exports to the Continent and the Soviet Union declined but shipments increased rather sharply to the United Kingdom and the United States.

As in New Zealand, wool prices are supported by the Wool Commission. Purchases began in March 1958 when prices reached the floor levels. Total purchases through February 1959 were 90,056 bales (310 pounds). During this period only one sale took place when 5,987 bales were sold on February 3, 1959.

Argentina and Uruguay: Raw wool exports in the first quarter (October-December) of the 1958-59 season from Argentina and Uruguay were more than 5 times exports in the same period a year earlier. The sharp increase is due largely to exchange measures which are more favorable to exporters. Exports in October-December 1957 were very small, due to disagreements over the "aforos" and multiple exchange rates systems of the 2 countries.

Exports of raw wool from Argentina during October-December totaled 108.6 million pounds, compared with 20.3 million pounds a year earlier, increasing sharply to all major destinations. The United States continued to be the leading buyer. Argentina's wool surplus began to move late in the 1957-58 season and picked up momentum following modification of the aforos in September.

In late December, the multiple exchange rate system was abolished and total exchange earnings, minus a retention and sales tax, could be converted at the free rate. The adoption of the free rate substantially increased exporters proceeds even though a 10 percent retention and 8 percent sales tax were imposed by the Government.

Argentina began the 1958-59 season with an estimated exportable surplus of almost 500 million pounds, grease basis, the highest level since October 1952. Exports during October-February have reduced this by about 43.5 percent.

Uruguay was the only major exporting country which showed an increase in raw wool exports in the 1957-58 season. Although shipments were held up early in the season, they began to move in large quantities late in the season. However, shipments in both the 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons were relatively low. Carryover stocks on October 1, 1958 were estimated at 78 million pounds, grease basis.

WOOL: Exports from principal Southern Hemisphere countries, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

(Actual Weight)

	Australia		New Zealand		Union of South Africa		Argentina		Uruguay 3/		Total 5 Countries	
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58 2/	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
United States	51	35	33	53	17	18	69	61	9	3	179	170
United Kingdom	331	271	199	173	55	48	37	20	19	19	641	531
Canada	6	4	6	4	1	1	--	--	--	--	13	9
Continental Europe:												
France	221	186	82	75	47	40	30	14	6	7	386	322
Belgium	110	105	17	19	15	12	10	4	2	1	154	141
Germany	92	78	33	32	46	32	8	5	7	12	186	159
Italy	131	137	18	20	23	25	17	5	7	5	196	192
Netherlands	4	3	10	8	2	1	17	6	28	13	61	31
Sweden	1	3	1	2	--	1	--	--	1	1	3	7
Others	19	31	2	4	6	8	1	1	4	6	32	50
Total	578	543	163	160	139	119	83	35	55	45	1,018	902
Japan	237	205	9	14	17	7	9	18	1	--	273	244
Australia	---	---	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	5
Sino-Soviet Bloc:												
U. S. S. R.	---	---	8	5	20	23	11	--	0	24	39	52
Poland	32	39	14	13	--	--	5	9	1	1	52	62
Others	23	23	1	5	1	1	--	--	1	4	26	33
Total	55	62	23	23	21	24	16	9	2	29	117	147
Others	45	51	4	4	2	1	4	7	1	1	64	64
World total	1,303	1,171	442	436	252	218	218	150	87	97	2,310	2,072

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand and Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. 2/ Includes small amount of tops, noils and waste, carded etc. 3/ Bale weights estimated as follows: greasy 1,057 pounds, scoured 550 pounds.

Shipments of raw wool from Uruguay in the early months of this season also have been very large. Exports increased to all countries, especially to the Bloc which accounted for about 40 percent of total raw wool shipments in October-December. By March 1, most of this season's clip and the carryover had already been sold. Unsold stocks, estimated at 44 million pounds, were mostly of inferior quality.

WORLD HOG NUMBERS INCREASING MORE SLOWLY

The increase of the world's hog numbers since World War II continued as expected during 1958, but at a substantially slower rate than for the past several years. The estimated number of 477 million in January 1959 was 6 percent over 1958, and 40 percent above the 1951-55 average.

Areas showing substantial increases during 1958 were North America and Asia. The former made marked gains. The latter had a substantial but slower rise.

Indications are that there have been sharp increases of hog numbers in Communist China (which has one-third of the world's hogs) in recent years. However, Communist official estimates have been materially discounted since it does not seem possible that so many hogs could be fed from China's limited feed supplies. Also the figures apparently are mid-summer numbers which would include all of the spring pig crop.

European numbers increased a little as a slight decline in Western Europe was more than offset by an increase in Eastern Europe.

The slight drop in Western Europe is significant, as it may be the beginning of a cyclical decline. There were steady, gradual increases in Western Europe from the end of World War II until 1951. From 1951 through 1954 a sharp increase from 48 million head to 56 million head occurred. Numbers dropped slightly in 1955 but rose again slightly during 1956; then in 1957 there was a sharp increase. Numbers dropped slightly in 1958.

With present U.S. and Canadian hog numbers and pork and lard production at very high levels, this decline in the important Western European market brightens U. S. and Canadian export prospects.

There was an increase of 4 percent in hog numbers in South America during 1958 due mostly to the continued increase in Brazil. Numbers in other countries in the area stayed about even.

In Cuba, numbers have increased slightly but there are still good prospects for U.S. lard exports since little Cuban lard is produced. However, the government has indicated it wishes to stimulate production of domestic vegetable oils to reduce its reliance on lard imports.

Area increases in hog numbers for 1958 as compared to 1951-55 average were: North America 11 percent; South America 39 percent; West Europe 14 percent; East Europe 19 percent; U.S.S.R. 70 percent; Africa 19 percent; Asia 71 percent; and Oceania 25 percent.

HOGS: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-59

Countries	Month of estimate 1/	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 2/	1959 2/
North America:		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Canada (Excluding Newfoundland)	Dec. 1 1/	4,730	4,819	4,561	5,160	6,880
Mexico	Spring	6,670	7,900	8,220	8,400	8,600
United States(Continental)	Jan. 1	54,346	55,173	51,703	50,980	57,201
Hawaii	Aug. 31	72	73	72	73	---
Puerto Rico	Jan.	86	64	65	---	---
Total Canada, Mexico, U. S. and Possessions		65,940	68,060	64,650	64,720	72,860
Costa Rica	Spring	116	115	131	132	---
El Salvador	Oct. 1/	292	291	301	---	---
Guatemala	May	421	362	---	403	---
Honduras	Aug.	557	625	---	---	---
Nicaragua		270	330	330	---	---
Panama 3/		206	190	191	223	---
Total Central America		1,890	1,940	2,020	2,130	2,180
Cuba	Dec. 1/	1,448	1,395	1,725	1,750	1,780
Dominican Republic	July	1,033	1,414	1,523	---	---
Total Caribbean		3,950	4,310	4,750	4,850	4,880
Total North America		71,780	74,310	71,420	71,700	79,920
South America:						
Argentina	June 30	3,846	4,011	3,497	---	---
Brazil	Dec. 31 1/	30,559	38,606	41,416	44,190	46,000
Chile	June	707	741	780	800	---
Colombia	Oct. 1/	2,363	1,727	1,455	1,770	1,770
Ecuador		594	839	994	1,080	---
Peru	Dec. 1/	1,233	1,341	1,281	1,247	1,365
Uruguay	May	258	381	387	394	---
Venezuela		1,564	2,362	2,362	---	---
Total South America		41,650	50,610	52,780	55,950	57,900
Europe:						
Austria	Dec. 3 1/	2,624	2,933	2,727	2,917	2,838
Belgium	Jan. 1	1,326	1,441	1,366	1,319	1,346
Denmark 4/	Dec. 1/	4,003	4,331	4,777	5,294	5,562
Finland	June 15	461	436	534	534	---
France	Oct. 1/	7,225	7,729	7,728	8,063	8,431
Germany, West 5/	Dec. 3 1/	13,101	14,606	14,421	15,431	14,667
Greece	Dec. 31, 1/	603	621	638	650	660
Ireland	Jan. 1	705	672	741	873	793
Italy	Jan.	3,920	3,860	3,540	3,300	---
Luxembourg 6/	May 15	101	114	116	---	---
Netherlands	Dec. 1/	2,206	2,448	2,555	2,757	2,554
Norway	Dec. 1/	327	410	420	399	361
Portugal	Dec. 1/	7/ 1,800	1,800	---	---	---
Spain	April	4,974	5,104	5,159	5,204	---
Sweden	April	1,484	1,630	1,902	2,081	---
Switzerland	April	981	1,159	1,160	1,190	1,220
United Kingdom	Dec. 1 1/	5,304	5,974	6,064	6,576	6,714
Total West Europe		51,250	55,360	55,740	58,540	58,270
Bulgaria	Jan.	1,193	1,413	1,468	1,990	---
Czechoslovakia	Jan. 1	4,380	5,285	5,369	5,435	5,283
Germany, East	Dec. 3, 1/	7,694	9,028	8,326	8,255	---
Hungary	March	4,857	6,056	4,996	5,338	---
Poland	June	9,501	11,561	12,325	11,999	---
Rumania	Jan.	3,364	4,950	---	3,240	---
Yugoslavia	Jan. 15	4,307	4,655	3,725	4,243	5,668
Total East Europe		35,300	42,950	40,300	40,500	42,020
Total Europe		86,550	98,310	96,040	99,040	100,290

Continued on next page

HOGS: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-59--Continued

Countries	Month of estimate 1/	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 2/	1959 2/
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
U. S. S. R.(Europe and Asia)	Jan. 1	28,660	34,000	40,800	44,300	48,500
Africa:						
Algeria 8/	Nov. 20, 1/	97	79	77	80	90
Tunisia	Dec. 1/	19	15	16	11	---
Total North Africa		300	270	260	250	255
Angola	Dec. 31, 1/	247	253	275	288	300
Belgian Congo & Ruanda Urundi	Dec. 31, 1/	310	402	382	403	420
French West Africa 9/		284	491	---	---	---
Ghana		116	120	120	120	120
Kenya 10/		48	36	41	55	---
Madagascar	Dec. 1/	274	266	---	---	---
Nigeria & British Cameroons		250	220	200	200	---
Rhodesia & Nysaland 11/	Dec. 31, 1/	227	253	268	---	---
Tanganyika	Dec. 1/	14	13	12	18	20
Togo		202	---	230	225	225
Un. of South Africa 12/		1,205	1,240	1,435	1,535	1,610
Total South Africa		3,800	4,140	4,360	4,520	4,635
Total Africa		4,100	4,410	4,620	4,770	4,890
Asia:						
Cyprus	Dec. 1/	35	34	33	39	---
Turkey (Europe and Asia)		110	112	112	114	117
Total South-West Asia		175	180	180	190	185
China Mainland 13/		86,000	84,400	114,000	---	---
Total East Central Asia		86,650	85,050	114,650	142,650	156,650
Burma	March	458	522	544	---	---
Cambodia	Dec. 1/	552	384	407	---	---
China, Taiwan	Dec. 1/	2,437	2,799	3,041	3,331	---
India 14/	May	3,888	4,660	---	---	---
Indonesia		1,196	1,469	1,616	---	---
Japan	Feb.	781	1,170	1,546	1,649	1,800
Korea, South	Dec. 1/	485	1,262	1,161	1,233	---
Laos	Dec. 1/	156	210	---	---	---
Malaya		336	426	396	398	---
Philippines	Jan. 1	4,710	5,765	---	---	---
Thailand	March 31	3,220	3,000	---	---	---
Vietnam	Dec. 1/	1,096	1,997	2,565	3,384	---
Total South and East Asia		20,150	24,670	26,150	27,550	26,500
Total Asia		106,975	109,900	140,980	170,400	183,350
Oceania:						
Australia	March 31	1,129	1,166	1,325	1,421	---
New Zealand	Jan. 31	618	690	602	660	675
Total Oceania		1,910	2,050	2,130	2,280	2,380
TOTAL WORLD		341,625	373,590	408,770	448,440	477,230

1/ Census estimate for year shown except that end of year (October-December) is included under following year for comparison and totals. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Adjusted to include Bocas del Toro and Darien. 4/ Excludes Faroe Islands & Greenland. 5/ Excludes Saarland. 6/ Excludes livestock on farms less than 1 hectare. 7/ Less than 5 years. 8/ Number taxed only. 9/ Includes Guinea which became independent October 1958. 10/ European owned only. 11/ European owned stock 9/30, other 12/31. 12/ Includes estimate for native owned. 13/ Includes 22 provinces, Manchuria, Sinkiang & Tibet. Excludes Outer Mongolia. 14/ Census May 1951 through August 1952. 1956 March and April.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of United States Agricultural Attaches and other representatives abroad, results of office research and related information. Estimated totals, include allowance for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown.

April 30, 1959

LARGER 1958 WORLD BARLEY AND OATS PRODUCTION CONFIRMED

Forecasts of a larger 1958 world crop of barley and oats than in 1957 have been confirmed by latest information received in the Foreign Agricultural Service. The combined crop of these grains is estimated at 146.7 million short tons, or very little change from the earlier forecast. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, January 29). The current estimate of production is only 2 percent below the record 1956 harvest of these grains.

Reduction from the high 1956 level was mainly in barley, with little change in oats. The estimated total of 3,280 million bushels of barley, though not up to the record 1956 harvest of 3,390 million bushels, is 4 percent above the 1957 total and 22 percent above the low level of 1950-54. The sharp increase over the 1950-54 average was due to larger acreage and higher yields. Production increases were substantial for all areas except Africa and Asia.

World production of oats is now estimated at 4,250 million bushels, slightly above the previous forecast. It is well above the 1957 total of 3,990 million and slightly above the 1950-54 average of 4,160 million. The increases are attributed to higher yields, as acreage in 1958 was the smallest of many years. A trend toward reduced oats acreage is apparent in all continents except Oceania, where a sharp increase in Australia's acreage brings the total to a new high.

North America's barley production of 725 million bushels is at a new high, mainly because of the record harvest in the United States. U.S. acreage was slightly less than in 1957 but yield per acre was the highest on record. Canada's crop was above average but less than the large production in 1956. Acreage was the second largest of record, but yields were well below average.

Production of 1,829 million bushels of oats in North America was large but somewhat less than the record crop of 1,907 million bushels in 1955. A near-record crop in the United States accounted for the high level of the 1958 crop, with Canada's crop below average. Acreage was the smallest for many years because of sharply reduced planting in the United States. Canadian oats acreage was above average but yields were low. In contrast, U.S. yields were at an unprecedented high, 44.7 bushels per acre. This exceeds the previous record in 1955 by 17 percent and is 30 percent above the 1947-1956 average.

Production of these grains in Western Europe was slightly higher than in 1957 and about 10 percent above the 1950-54 average. The increase over the average was entirely in barley; that increase more than offset a substantial decline in oats production. Barley production in 1958 is now estimated at 790 million bushels and oats at 870 million. Acreage of barley was larger than in 1957 but oats continued its downward trend.

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/				Yield per acre 3/				Production			
	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada	7,916	8,390	9,403	9,548	28.9	32.1	23.0	25.6	228,400	269,067	215,993	244,764
Mexico	573	609	593	642	13.2	14.8	13.2	14.7	7,554	9,035	7,810	9,415
United States	10,173	12,940	14,988	14,876	27.8	29.1	29.2	31.6	283,026	376,873	437,170	470,449
Estimated total 5/	18,660	21,940	24,980	25,070	27.8	29.9	26.5	28.9	519,000	655,000	661,000	725,000
Europe:												
Austria	363	416	427	427	36.6	42.5	42.2	36.1	13,288	17,660	18,000	15,400
Belgium	213	224	213	234	58.0	59.1	63.8	62.4	12,344	13,240	13,580	14,600
Denmark	1,390	1,601	1,712	1,774	63.7	68.9	68.7	64.4	88,490	110,320	117,580	114,180
Finland	358	477	545	552	30.5	27.5	29.3	33.1	10,904	13,140	15,980	18,260
France	2,713	5,640	4,060	4,398	32.9	52.3	41.0	40.7	89,372	295,000	166,500	179,000
Germany, West	1,733	2,103	2,155	2,169	47.5	50.5	53.4	51.1	82,320	106,100	115,025	110,900
Greece	522	509	496	483	20.0	20.7	23.5	25.4	10,424	10,530	11,660	12,250
Ireland	174	236	313	316	51.2	62.1	59.7	44.3	8,910	14,650	18,700	14,000
Italy	619	587	566	554	21.1	21.6	24.0	24.5	13,057	12,680	13,590	13,600
Netherlands	183	182	178	202	60.4	68.8	75.2	71.7	11,048	12,520	13,390	14,480
Norway	164	268	334	359	44.8	51.0	43.4	43.5	7,350	13,660	14,495	15,620
Portugal	382	381	383	371	15.1	11.0	14.2	16.0	5,780	4,200	5,430	5,920
Spain	3,903	3,892	3,781	3,706	22.8	18.3	22.8	21.7	88,830	71,250	86,350	80,380
Sweden	352	592	649	726	42.2	47.5	39.4	42.3	14,850	28,140	25,580	30,710
Switzerland	53	78	61	60	48.7	55.1	52.5	53.6	2,581	4,300	3,200	3,215
United Kingdom	2,051	2,323	2,622	2,756	48.9	56.2	52.6	53.7	100,326	130,670	137,990	148,070
Estimated total West Europe 5/	15,190	19,540	18,520	19,120	36.9	44.0	42.1	41.3	560,000	860,000	780,000	790,000
Bulgaria	630	640	642	—	26.8	21.9	31.6	—	16,900	14,000	20,300	—
Czechoslovakia	1,556	1,650	1,651	1,653	33.5	39.1	37.9	33.8	52,100	64,500	62,500	55,800
Germany, East	702	796	795	—	38.2	38.4	44.0	—	26,800	30,600	35,000	36,750
Hungary	1,080	1,005	1,190	1,330	27.3	26.4	37.0	25.3	29,500	26,500	44,000	33,700
Poland	2,072	1,920	1,920	1,824	24.3	27.1	29.3	30.2	50,400	52,000	56,350	55,000
Rumania	1,235	750	754	—	15.8	16.3	23.2	—	19,500	12,200	17,500	—
Yugoslavia	—	872	1,008	964	—	18.1	27.5	22.4	16,600	15,800	27,740	21,590
Estimated total East Europe 5/	8,280	7,650	7,980	7,990	26.0	28.1	33.2	28.8	215,000	215,000	265,000	230,000
Estimated total all Europe 5/	23,470	27,190	26,500	27,110	33.0	39.5	39.4	37.6	775,000	1,075,000	1,045,000	1,020,000

U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/	22,500	29,400	24,200	23,500	15.6	17.9	16.5	18.7	350,000	525,000	400,000	440,000
Asia:												
Cyprus	135	145	140	—	19.8	24.1	22.9	—	2,676	3,500	3,200	2,700
Iran	1,956	—	—	—	18.8	—	—	—	36,798	36,740	45,930	43,630
Iraq	2,374	2,893	3,063	2,858	14.9	16.1	19.6	15.3	35,270	46,670	59,930	43,760
Israel	175	145	114	128	16.5	26.9	29.8	19.1	2,880	3,900	3,400	2,450
Lebanon	40	47	52	35	19.0	20.6	20.8	8.6	760	970	1,080	300
Syria	848	1,630	1,483	964	14.5	15.5	17.0	6.0	12,292	25,260	25,260	5,740
Turkey	5,540	6,454	6,500	5,500	23.2	20.1	24.6	23.6	128,380	130,000	160,000	130,000
China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	325,000	—	—	—
India	8,020	8,447	8,726	7,531	14.7	15.3	15.1	13.5	118,280	129,270	131,900	101,500
Pakistan	567	580	528	629	11.6	11.9	11.5	12.8	6,600	6,910	6,070	8,070
Japan	2,400	2,425	2,307	2,268	37.7	39.7	38.9	38.1	90,439	96,380	89,690	86,310
Korea, South	1,710	1,950	2,050	—	14.6	17.4	15.1	—	25,000	34,000	31,000	—
Estimated total 5/	41,120	44,530	44,840	41,930	19.6	18.9	19.4	19.3	805,000	840,000	870,000	810,000
Africa:												
Algeria	3,102	3,300	—	—	12.1	14.0	—	—	37,494	46,210	25,980	34,450
Egypt	128	137	138	141	38.9	43.2	43.5	43.8	4,976	5,920	6,000	6,170
Morocco 7/	4,934	4,655	2,938	4,487	14.4	15.4	7.3	13.1	71,220	71,660	21,500	58,880
Tunisia	1,295	1,600	1,800	1,775	6.9	5.3	4.7	7.2	8,920	8,500	8,500	12,860
Union of South Africa	135	—	—	—	17.4	—	—	—	2,350	1,000	700	1,000
Estimated total 5/	11,130	11,740	9,570	11,900	13.0	13.2	8.9	11.8	145,000	155,000	85,000	140,000
South America:												
Argentina	1,587	2,501	2,059	2,313	24.8	25.1	22.5	22.5	39,320	62,670	46,400	52,000
Chile	136	149	149	165	31.7	30.2	31.5	27.3	4,316	4,500	4,700	4,500
Peru	465	418	419	450	21.5	17.5	18.2	20.4	9,980	7,315	7,630	9,200
Uruguay	81	140	95	161	16.6	14.6	15.0	15.1	1,344	2,050	1,425	2,430
Estimated total 5/	2,830	3,810	3,310	3,690	22.3	22.8	21.1	21.7	63,000	87,000	70,000	80,000
Oceania:												
Australia	1,412	2,093	2,121	2,194	22.2	24.5	15.0	28.7	31,351	51,330	31,740	62,920
New Zealand	53	60	59	59	45.1	49.6	53.0	53.0	2,388	2,975	3,125	3,125
Total Oceania	1,465	2,153	2,180	2,253	23.0	25.2	16.0	29.3	33,739	54,305	34,865	66,045
Estimated world total 5/	121,180	140,760	135,580	135,450	22.2	24.1	23.3	24.2	2,690,000	3,390,000	3,165,000	3,280,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvsets of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with thoss of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1958 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which began late in 1958 and ended early in 1959. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, revised preliminary forecasts. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing oountries not shown. 6/ Production data are tentative unofficial estimates. 7/ Excludes data for areas formerly known as Spanish Morocco and Tangier.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and related information.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest average 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/				Yield per acre 3/				Production			
	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada 5/	10,813	11,707	11,017	11,039	38.6	44.8	34.5	36.3	417,429	524,517	380,599	400,951
Mexico	206	94	148	247	18.2	22.0	20.9	25.1	3,759	2,067	3,100	6,200
United States	37,928	33,706	34,647	31,826	33.9	34.5	37.5	44.7	1,285,417	1,163,160	1,300,954	1,422,164
Estimated total 6/	48,950	45,510	45,810	43,110	34.9	37.1	36.8	42.4	1,707,000	1,690,000	1,685,000	1,829,000
Europe:												
Austria	539	461	454	440	44.8	56.0	51.6	52.2	24,156	25,800	23,440	22,950
Belgium	405	389	366	350	80.2	85.7	85.4	87.2	32,462	33,340	31,270	30,510
Denmark	656	628	586	504	89.5	93.5	92.4	89.0	58,740	58,700	54,150	44,850
Finland	1,143	1,146	1,023	1,092	47.1	39.6	47.0	49.1	53,801	45,400	48,100	53,580
France	5,596	5,626	3,973	3,694	43.3	56.4	44.7	48.7	242,298	317,200	177,700	180,000
Germany, West	2,681	2,350	2,237	2,044	67.3	71.9	68.6	72.4	180,322	168,890	153,520	148,050
Greece	365	365	373	356	26.2	27.9	34.3	32.6	9,558	10,175	12,800	11,600
Ireland	613	525	455	452	63.2	71.5	65.5	66.6	38,744	37,520	29,820	30,100
Italy	1,140	1,046	1,037	1,011	32.9	33.4	38.6	38.7	37,516	34,890	40,040	39,175
Luxembourg	52	50	50	—	50.0	58.0	—	—	2,602	2,900	—	—
Netherlands	368	377	394	340	87.5	88.2	88.2	90.4	32,210	33,260	34,760	30,720
Norway	187	164	150	140	62.7	76.6	62.3	62.6	11,726	12,560	9,350	8,760
Portugal	774	746	763	753	12.2	9.0	11.6	12.9	9,424	6,720	8,840	9,680
Spain	1,520	1,251	1,448	1,458	23.2	24.9	25.5	28.3	35,306	31,120	36,860	41,300
Sweden	1,215	1,321	1,273	1,319	47.8	59.1	45.9	48.4	58,124	78,050	58,380	63,880
Switzerland	64	61	47	40	77.3	77.7	82.6	79.3	4,946	4,740	3,880	3,170
United Kingdom	2,854	2,564	2,348	2,220	65.4	67.9	63.9	67.6	186,774	174,020	150,150	150,010
Estimated total West Europe 6/	20,170	19,070	16,980	16,260	50.6	56.4	51.5	53.5	1,020,000	1,075,000	875,000	870,000
Bulgaria	397	373	376	—	27.7	22.5	30.6	—	11,000	8,400	11,500	—
Czechoslovakia	1,380	1,330	1,320	1,250	44.2	52.6	47.0	49.6	61,000	70,000	62,000	62,000
Germany, East	1,352	1,100	1,125	—	56.7	55.5	52.0	—	76,600	61,000	58,500	67,500
Hungary	355	295	424	428	31.0	36.6	42.5	30.8	11,000	10,800	18,000	13,200
Poland	4,130	3,940	4,290	4,210	35.8	39.5	40.8	43.5	148,000	155,500	175,000	183,000
Rumania	1,175	840	865	—	22.9	25.0	31.2	—	26,900	21,000	27,000	—
Yugoslavia	—	922	993	857	—	24.2	33.6	20.8	19,420	22,320	33,345	17,840
Estimated total East Europe 6/	9,700	8,830	9,420	9,090	36.6	39.6	40.9	40.7	355,000	350,000	385,000	370,000
Estimated total all Europe 6/	29,870	27,900	26,400	25,350	46.0	51.1	47.7	48.9	1,375,000	1,425,000	1,260,000	1,240,000

U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 7/	40,000	37,300	34,600	36,000	20.9	23.5	23.1	24.7	835,000	875,000	800,000	890,000
Asia:												
Syria	22	—	—	—	24.3	—	—	—	535	—	—	—
Turkey	808	919	949	625	30.9	27.2	31.6	31.2	24,958	25,000	30,000	19,500
China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70,000	—	—	—
Japan	209	208	232	222	47.6	53.3	55.8	53.7	9,948	11,090	12,950	11,920
Estimated total 6/	4,400	4,740	4,690	4,250	25.0	23.2	22.4	23.5	110,000	110,000	105,000	100,000
Africa:												
Algeria	428	309	—	—	20.9	21.6	—	—	8,940	6,680	6,200	5,500
Morocco 8/	140	62	77	72	28.4	25.6	18.8	19.8	3,978	1,590	1,450	1,425
Tunisia	59	50	60	—	18.2	—	—	—	1,074	—	—	—
Union of South Africa	365	—	—	—	15.9	—	—	—	5,800	5,000	4,700	6,500
Estimated total 6/	1,040	820	850	840	20.2	18.3	17.6	17.9	21,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
South America:												
Argentina	1,655	2,362	2,165	2,049	34.0	33.3	31.6	31.2	56,284	78,540	68,500	64,000
Chile	238	254	262	268	28.6	30.4	34.4	29.6	6,800	7,710	9,000	7,945
Uruguay	145	204	298	218	19.4	18.8	12.1	16.7	2,816	3,830	3,600	3,650
Estimated total 6/	2,090	2,890	2,790	2,600	32.1	31.8	29.7	30.8	67,000	92,000	83,000	80,000
Oceania:												
Australia	2,325	2,557	2,957	4,234	18.2	17.3	13.3	22.6	42,252	44,250	39,280	95,750
New Zealand	37	56	27	25	62.4	64.5	64.8	62.4	2,308	3,610	1,750	1,560
Total Oceania	2,362	2,613	2,984	4,259	18.9	18.3	13.8	22.8	44,560	47,860	41,030	97,310
Estimated world total 6/	128,710	121,770	118,120	116,410	32.3	34.9	33.8	36.5	4,160,000	4,255,000	3,990,000	4,250,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1958 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which began late in 1958 and ended early in 1959. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, revised preliminary forecasts. 5/ Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Production data are tentative unofficial estimates. 8/ Excludes data for areas formerly known as Spanish Morocco and Tangier.

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In Eastern Europe production of both barley and oats was smaller than the good harvest of 1957. Oats acreage was down but barley was slightly larger. Most of the crop reduction was in the Danube Basin countries. Larger harvests of these crops are estimated for the Soviet Union. Above-average yields are indicated since growing conditions were favorable throughout the season, in most areas.

Production is smaller in Asia, with barley accounting for most of the reduction. Barley production of 810 million bushels is slightly above the 1950-54 average but is 60 million bushels less than the large 1957 outturn. Acreage was well below the 1957 area and yields about the same as that year. Production of oats is estimated at 100 million bushels, slightly below the previous year because of reduced acreage.

Barley production in Africa is still estimated at 140 million bushels, sharply above the poor 1957 harvest. Substantial gains are reported for both acreage and yields. Production of oats is placed at 15 million bushels, the same as 1957.

South America's barley crop is estimated at 80 million bushels, well above the 1957 harvest of 70 million. Acreage and yields are both larger this year. Oats production is also estimated at 80 million bushels, slightly less than a year earlier because of smaller acreage.

Crops of these grains are at an alltime high in Australia. Barley production, estimated at 63 million bushels is about double the crop in 1957 and the 1950-54 average. Acreage was slightly larger than in 1957 and yields were at a new high. Oats production is estimated at 96 million, compared with 39 million a year earlier. Acreage was up sharply, and yields set a new record.

WORLD CATTLE NUMBERS RISE IN 1958

World cattle numbers continued their steady increase during 1958, setting a new record of about 992 million head. This is about 1 percent (14 million head) above last year and 8 percent (77 million head) above the 1951-55 average. Numbers are expected to exceed 1 billion head by the end of 1959.

The 14-million-head increase in 1958 resulted from increases of 4.1 million both in the U.S.S.R. and North America, 2.2 million in South America, 1.9 million in Europe (mostly Western Europe), 1.8 million in Asia, and 600,000 in Africa. Cattle numbers in Oceania declined slightly. Cattle numbers have increased 16.7 million head over the 1951-55 average in Asia. The gain in South America was 15.5 million, in the U.S.S.R. 13.8 million, in Africa 13.0 million, in North America 11.7 million, in Europe 4.9 million, and in Oceania 1.5 million.

Major Exporters: The most significant development in world cattle numbers during 1958 was the continued decrease in Argentina. A 13-percent decrease since the high of 1956 has caused considerable Argentine concern, and the Government took strenuous steps in early 1959 to reverse this trend. Argentine cattle slaughter has dropped sharply, and numbers are expected to remain steady, or increase slightly through 1959. This sharp drop in cattle slaughter, however, was at the expense of Argentine beef exports, which dropped severely during the last months of 1958 and early 1959. Argentine exports of beef are expected to remain low for several years.

Cattle numbers in 2 other beef exporting areas have also dropped. Australian cattle, at 16.5 million, were 5 percent below their 1957 high. At present, pastures in Australia are in very good condition and calf production and weight gains are expected to be large. But the record high prices for cattle are encouraging slaughter. Uruguayan numbers continue low. Reduced numbers, plus financial and labor difficulties in the Uruguayan packing industry, have reduced exports sharply, eliminating Uruguay as a major exporter in world beef trade.

The important beef exporting countries of New Zealand, Denmark, and Ireland, continued to show steady increases in cattle numbers.

Canadian cattle numbers continued to drop. A sharp reduction in cattle slaughter and exports during 1959 is expected to halt this decline, and numbers may rise slightly by the end of the year.

Major Importers: United Kingdom cattle numbers continued their steady postwar upward trend in 1958. Further increases are expected during 1959.

By the end of 1958, U.S. cattle numbers had risen to 96.9 million head, 4 percent above at the end of 1957 low and equal to the previous high in 1956. They are expected to continue to increase during 1959 and will probably exceed 100 million head by the end of the year.

Italian cattle numbers continued their steady rise in response to government encouragement to producers and strong domestic demand.

Other Areas: Central American cattle numbers have increased steadily in recent years and are 23 percent above the 1951-55 average. Central American producers and traders have shown growing eagerness to enter world beef trade in recent years, and development of this area as a beef and cattle exporter is expected.

CATTLE: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-59

Country	Month of estimate 1/	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 2/	1959 2/
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
NORTH AMERICA:						
Canada (excluding Newfoundland)........	Dec. 1 1/	8,673	9,997	10,379	10,293	10,112
Mexico..............................	Spring	17,200	18,000	18,700	18,900	19,400
United States (Continental)...........	Jan. 1	91,333	96,804	94,502	93,350	96,851
Hawaii..............................	Dec. 31 1/	160	170	169	—	—
Puerto Rico.........................	Jan.	382	404	408	—	—
Total Canada, Mexico, United States, and possessions....		117,790	125,420	124,200	123,160	126,980
Costa Rica..........................	Spring	705	844	949	981	—
El Salvador.........................	Oct. 1/	794	934	985	—	—
Guatemala...........................	May	1,133	1,033	—	1,333	—
Honduras............................	Aug.	1,153	1,121	—	—	—
Nicaragua...........................		1,213	1,260	1,328	—	—
Panama 3/...........................		573	594	622	629	—
Total Central America............		5,590	5,800	6,200	6,410	6,510
Cuba................................	Dec. 1/	4,408	4,500	5,500	5,700	5,850
Dominican Republic..................	July	885	923	930	—	—
Total Caribbean..................		6,360	6,480	7,500	7,710	7,860
Total North America		129,740	137,700	137,900	137,280	141,350
SOUTH AMERICA:						
Argentina...........................	June 30	42,688	46,940	44,203	41,100	—
Bolivia.............................	Jan.	4/2,260	—	—	—	—
Brazil..............................	Dec. 31 1/	56,071	63,608	66,695	69,548	72,000
Chile...............................	June	2,594	2,560	2,580	2,590	—
Colombia............................	Oct. 1/	12,944	12,500	13,390	14,490	14,490
Ecuador.............................		1,377	1,274	1,363	—	—
Paraguay............................		4,099	4,426	—	3,930	—
Peru................................	Dec. 1/	2,608	3,439	3,380	3,332	3,224
Uruguay.............................	May	7,797	7,433	7,200	7,430	—
Venezuela...........................		6,313	6,700	6,000	—	—
Total South America		138,970	151,360	151,470	152,270	154,510
EUROPE:						
Austria.............................	Dec. 3 1/	2,303	2,346	2,325	2,297	2,279
Belgium.............................	Jan. 1	2,153	2,242	2,485	2,413	2,482
Denmark 5/..........................	Dec. 31 1/	2,989	3,082	3,113	3,151	3,224
Finland.............................	June 15	1,852	1,839	1,845	1,936	—
France..............................	Oct. 1/	16,506	17,572	17,792	17,928	18,404
Germany, West 6/....................	Dec. 3 1/	11,470	11,588	11,850	11,953	12,071
Greece 7/...........................	Dec. 31 1/	942	1,032	1,057	1,086	1,116
Ireland.............................	Jan. 1	3,925	4,070	4,022	3,970	4,053
Italy 7/............................	Jan.	8,711	8,460	8,479	8,630	9,000
Luxembourg 8/.......................	May 15	131	131	133	—	—
Netherlands.........................	Dec. 1/	2,733	2,713	2,785	2,873	3,015
Norway..............................	Dec. 1/	1,127	1,067	1,060	1,068	1,060
Portugal............................	Dec. 15 1/	1,050	1,074	—	—	—
Spain 9/............................	April	2,888	2,737	2,736	2,734	—
Sweden..............................	June 1	2,557	2,434	2,426	2,543	—
Switzerland.........................	April	1,620	1,645	1,643	1,664	1,700
United Kingdom......................	Dec. 1 1/	10,132	10,755	10,711	10,819	11,021
Total West Europe................		73,210	74,880	75,630	76,390	77,990
Bulgaria 7/.........................	Jan.	1,896	1,856	1,772	—	—
Czechoslovakia......................	Jan. 1	4,249	4,107	4,134	4,091	4,183
Germany, East.......................	Dec. 3 1/	3,790	3,760	3,719	—	—
Hungary.............................	March	2,108	2,170	1,973	1,937	—
Poland..............................	June	7,488	8,353	8,260	8,207	—
Rumania 7/..........................	Jan.	4,647	4,800	—	4,470	—
Yugoslavia 7/.......................	Jan. 15	5,061	5,273	5,006	4,922	5,092
Total East Europe................		29,240	30,320	29,500	29,100	29,440
Total Europe.......		102,450	105,200	105,130	105,490	107,430
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)..............	Jan. 1	57,020	58,800	61,400	66,700	70,800

(Continued)

CATTLE: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-59 (Continued)

Country	Month of estimate 1/	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 2/	1959 2/
AFRICA:		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Algeria 10/	Nov. 20 1/	835	912	840	826	950
Egypt 7/	Jan. 1	2,685	---	---	2,785	2,819
Ethiopia and Eritrea		20,830	22,000	22,500	23,000	---
Sudan	Dec. 1 1/	4,457	---	6,907	6,916	---
Tunisia	Dec. 1/	448	502	491	544	---
Total North Africa		34,100	36,705	38,490	39,070	39,250
Angola	Dec. 31 1/	1,237	1,245	1,214	1,176	1,150
Basutoland		404	400	382	---	---
Bechuanaland		1,087	1,236	---	---	---
Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi	Dec. 31 1/	1,710	1,797	1,862	1,963	2,000
Cameroun	Dec. 1/	1,240	1,225	1,280	1,300	---
French Equatorial Africa		4,152	4,335	4,399	4,412	---
French West Africa 11/		7,796	9,455	---	---	---
Ghana		790	860	870	---	---
Kenya		6,757	7,265	7,265	---	---
Madagascar	Dec. 1/	5,960	6,228	---	---	---
Mozambique		782	835	842	---	---
Nigeria and British Cameroons		9,667	11,000	11,000	---	---
Rhodesia and Nyasaland 12/	Dec. 31 1/	4,202	4,385	4,556	4,711	4,800
Swaziland		421	438	463	---	---
Tanganyika	Dec. 1/	6,393	6,750	7,000	7,130	7,011
Uganda		2,738	3,094	3,232	3,308	---
Union of South Africa	Aug. 31	11,700	11,800	11,800	---	12,000
Total South Africa		69,095	74,895	75,710	76,535	76,915
Total Africa.		103,195	111,600	114,200	115,605	116,165
ASIA:						
Iran 7/	March	4,654	5,234	5,395	5,500	---
Iraq 7/ 13/		2,177	1,910	1,900	---	---
Syria 7/	Dec. 31 1/	459	474	491	512	---
Turkey 7/		11,577	12,115	12,621	12,706	13,088
Total South West Asia		19,570	20,510	21,210	21,440	21,800
China Mainland 14/		59,671	66,748	---	---	---
Total East Central Asia		61,400	68,500	65,800	65,800	66,800
Burma 7/ 15/	March	5,424	5,653	5,713	---	---
Cambodia 7/	Dec. 1/	1,291	1,221	1,301	---	---
Ceylon 7/		1,918	2,240	2,150	---	---
China, Taiwan 7/	Dec. 1/	384	412	414	423	---
India 7/ 16/	May	200,297	203,629	---	---	---
Indonesia 7/		7,576	7,947	7,879	---	---
Japan	Feb.	2,782	3,216	3,177	3,127	3,210
Korea, South	Dec. 1/	616	867	917	967	---
Laos 7/		310	425	---	---	---
Malaya 7/		510	529	538	546	---
Pakistan 7/		37,439	37,569	---	---	---
Philippines 7/		3,467	4,429	---	---	---
Thailand	Mar. 31	11,025	12,000	---	---	---
Total South and East Asia		281,440	288,535	289,255	290,060	290,490
Total Asia...		362,410	377,545	376,265	377,300	379,090
OCEANIA:						
Australia	Mar. 31	15,361	16,457	17,257	16,900	16,400
New Zealand	Jan. 31	5,468	5,600	5,809	5,875	5,925
Total Oceania		21,080	22,320	23,330	23,040	22,590
TOTAL WORLD		914,865	964,525	969,695	977,685	991,935

1/ Census or estimate for year shown except that end of year (October-December) is included under following year for comparison and totals. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Adjusted to include Bocas del Toro and Darien. 4/ Less than 5 years. 5/ Excludes Faroe Islands and Greenland. 6/ Excludes Saarland. 7/ Includes buffaloes. 8/ Excludes livestock on farms less than 1 hectare. 9/ One year old and older. 10/ Number taxed only. 11/ Includes Guinea which became independent October 1958. 12/ European-owned stock Sept. 30, other Dec. 31. 13/ Agricultural holdings only. Non-nomadic. 14/ Includes 22 provinces, Manchuria, Sinkiang, and Tibet. Excludes Outer Mongolia. 15/ Excludes Puato, Chin Hills, Shan States, and Karenni. 16/ Census May 1951 through August 1952. 1956 March and April.

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Although cattle numbers in Africa south of the Sahara have shown only moderate rises in recent years, an important change is taking place in the structure of the cattle industry in that area. Increasing commercial production of livestock by European ranchers, and a growing awareness of commercial possibilities of the large cattle numbers by their African owners has increased beef production. With their low domestic per capita consumption, and the limited domestic market for their better grade beef, several countries of South Africa are now looking for export markets.

Cattle numbers in Western Europe rose 2 percent during 1958 and are expected to continue to increase during 1959. However, they have not kept pace with the growing demand for beef as Western European living standards rise. Western Europe is expected to increase its imports of beef during the foreseeable future.

Eastern Europe, an cattle numbers, which declined during the past several years, rose slightly in 1958. They still remained below their 1953 high. Most of this increase was in Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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